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REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL ON
THE WORK OF THE ORGANIZATION

SECURITY COUNCIL
Fifty-fourth year

Letter dated 10 August 1999 from the Permanent Representative of Pakistan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to enclose herewith a letter from Senator Sartaj Aziz, Foreign Minister of Pakistan, on the shooting down by India of an unarmed Pakistan navy aircraft, which was on a routine training flight inside Pakistani territory on 10 July 1999 (see annex). All 16 crew members on board died. This grave act of provocation by India is a severe setback to our efforts to reduce tensions in the region.

I would be grateful if this letter and its annex could be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under item 10 of the provisional agenda, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Inam UL HAQUE
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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Annex

Letter dated 10 August 1999 from the Foreign Minister of Pakistan addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to state that on the morning of 10 August 1999, Indian military aircraft shot down, without provocation, an unarmed aircraft of the Pakistan navy that was on a routine training flight inside Pakistan airspace, east of Karachi. The wreckage of the plane has been found on land two kilometres inside Pakistani territory.

The Government of Pakistan has lodged a strong protest with the Government of India concerning this blatant and unprovoked act of military aggression, which is a flagrant violation of the international norms relating to the inviolability of international frontiers, as well as the bilateral agreement between Pakistan and India on the prevention of airspace violations of 6 April 1991. This aggression has resulted in the loss of 16 naval personnel including 5 officers who were on a training mission. This cold-blooded murder deserves strong condemnation by the international community. The responsibility of this wanton and cowardly act rests squarely with India. Pakistan reserves the right to make an appropriate response in self-defence.

Sartaj AZIZ